## 2016 Great Basin National Park Centennial BioBlitz Results

## By Kelly Colegrove, Great Basin Bird Observatory

There were 1843 birds representing 73 species recorded over the course of the weekend (of the lists submitted). This includes lists generated during the scheduled tours, point counts during tours, and incidental records, which were mostly at various campgrounds. Mountain Chickadees were the most abundant species recorded. Clark's Nutcrackers were also recorded in large numbers, but it was likely the same few large flocks recorded on multiple lists (Table 4). Pine Siskins, Cassin's Finches, and American Robins were also very common (Table 1). I was surprised at how few Brewer's Sparrows and Yellow-breasted Chats were recorded. The chats tend to migrate later, and this has been a late year overall for migration anyway, but the Brewer's Sparrows should be up here. It might just be that there wasn't as much coverage of pure sagebrush. That might also explain the lack of Sage Thrashers (though they seem to migrate a little later as well).

I included richness and abundance for each birding location for fun, though I don't think the different areas can be compared due to the variety of different tour groups, and therefore, differences in diligence of data collection (Table 2). Snake Creek had the highest richness and abundance, which may be partially due to how remote it is, but more likely due to the group starting at sunrise each day, and because it was surveyed twice. I included species seen at each trail on both Saturday and Sunday to illustrate the differences in the trails that were surveyed twice (Table 3 & 4).

Overall, there were 8 species confirmed breeding: Mountain Chickadee, Cassin's Finch, American Robin, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Wild Turkey, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, and Red-naped Sapsucker (Table 1). The turkeys and Cassin's Finches already had fledglings (the Cassin's fledged over the weekend—we got to see them as nestlings, and then fledged Sunday morning!!).

Table 1. Total species recorded over the weekend based on survey type. Species in order of abundance.

Species	Highest Breeding Evidence	Incidental records	<b>Point Count</b>	Walking tour	Total observed
Mountain Chickadee	On nest	3	18	149	170
Clark's Nutcracker	Observed only	21	3	116	140
Pine Siskin	Singing	7	5	123	135
Cassin's Finch	Feeding young	13	9	89	111
American Robin	On nest	15	7	83	105
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Carrying nesting	4	11	78	93
Chipping Sparrow	Singing	2	8	74	84
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Singing	4	5	75	84
Warbling Vireo	Singing	9	6	55	70
House Wren	Pair	2	1	55	58
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Singing		11	42	53
Northern Flicker	On nest	4	8	36	48
Spotted Towhee	Singing	10	1	37	48
Wild Turkey	Fledglings	6	2	40	48
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Carrying nesting	4	5	33	42
Cedar Waxwing	Observed only			40	40

Dusky Flycatcher	Pair	1		35	36
Dark-eyed Junco	Singing		1	30	31
<b>Green-tailed Towhee</b>	Singing	2	3	23	28
MacGillivray's Warbler	Singing	3	4	17	24
Pinyon Jay	Observed only	14		10	24
Common Raven	Observed only	1	4	18	23
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Singing	2		20	22
<b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b>	Observed only	9		13	22
Black-headed Grosbeak	Singing	5	3	12	20
Mountain Bluebird	Pair		3	17	20
Red-naped Sapsucker	Carrying nesting		4	16	20
Western Scrub-jay	Observed only	1	4	15	20
Hermit Thrush	Singing		1	17	18
Western Tanager	Singing	4	1	8	13
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Pair			12	12
Steller's Jay	Observed only	2		9	11
Lesser Goldfinch	Observed only	1		9	10
Brown Creeper	Singing			9	9
Evening Grosbeak	Observed only			9	9
Plumbeous Vireo	Pair	4	2	2	8
Downy Woodpecker	Observed only	1	2	4	7
Red-tailed Hawk	Copulation			7	7
Barn Swallow	Pair			6	6
Hairy Woodpecker	Observed only		1	5	6
White-breasted Nuthatch	Singing	1		5	6
Bushtit	Observed only			5	5
Golden Eagle	Observed only		1	4	5
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Observed only			5	5
passerine sp.			3	2	5
Black-capped Chickadee	Observed only			4	4
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Pair			4	4
Bullock's Oriole	Pair			4	4
Mallard	Observed only			4	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Observed only		3	1	4
Violet-green Swallow	Observed only			4	4
American Dipper	Singing	3			3
Cooper's Hawk	Observed only			3	3
Empidonax sp.			1	2	3
Gray Vireo	Observed only			3	3

Mourning Dove	Pair			3	3
Orange-crowned Warbler	Singing	1		2	3
Pygmy Nuthatch	Observed only			3	3
Spotted Sandpiper	Observed only			3	3
Virginia's Warbler	Singing			3	3
Yellow Warbler	Singing	1		2	3
Dabbling duck sp.				2	2
Dusky Grouse	Observed only		1	1	2
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Observed only			2	2
Northern Goshawk	Observed only			2	2
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Observed only	2			2
Townsend's Solitaire	Observed only	1		1	2
Turkey Vulture	Observed only			2	2
Woodpecker sp.			2		2
American Kestrel	Observed only			1	1
American Three-toed Woodpecker	Observed only			1	1
Brewer's Sparrow	Singing			1	1
Common Poorwill	Observed only	1			1
Gray Flycatcher	Observed only			1	1
Hawk sp.				1	1
Hummingbird sp.				1	1
Juniper Titmouse	Observed only			1	1
Unidentified thrush				1	1
Unidentified woodpecker			1		1
Parulidae sp.				1	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	Observed only			1	1
Grand Total		164	145	1534	1843

Table 2. Species richness and abundance for each birding location submitted. Point counts combined for each tour route. UTMs in NAD83

Birding location	UTM easting	UTM northing	Species richness	Total birds recorded
Baker Creek to Grey Cliffs	738645	4317763	25	110
Baker Creek Trail S. Fork	738614	4317800	26	98
Baker Creek Trailhead to Pole Canyon saddle	738745	4316865	19	61
Baker Lake Trail	738614	4317800	24	104
Camp (Kevin Wheelers)			9	13
Can Young Canyon	742640	4317659	26	151
<b>Grey Cliffs Campground</b>	740429	4319329	32	148
Lower Lehman	739000	4322253	18	85
Osceola Ditch	736053	4322050	25	92
Osceola Trail	733499	4326127	17	24
Picnic area/Cave Springs	740800	4321084	29	119
Pole Saddle			23	101
Sewer pond/Rowland Springs	741229	4321223	30	116
Snake Creek	738250	4312142	35	253
Strawberry Creek Road	733187	4326211	30	117
Timber Creek			19	65
Upper Lehman Creek	736053	4322050	37	186

Table 3. All species recorded on tours 5/21/16

Species	Baker Cr. Trail S. Fork	Baker Cr. Tr Pole Canyon saddle	Baker Lake Trail	Osceola Ditch	Osceola Trail	Picnic area/Cave Springs	Pole Saddle	Sewer pond/ Rowland Springs	Snake Creek	Strawberry Creek Road	Upper Lehman Creek
American Robin	5	1	6	3		4	1	2	7		16
Barn Swallow						2		2			
Black-capped Chickadee											4
Black-chinned Hummingbird								2	1		2
Black-headed Grosbeak			1	-					1		3
Black-throated Gray Warbler	1			2		4	2	2			
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher						2		3			
Brewer's Sparrow	1	_					_			,	
Broad-tailed Hummingbird		2	3	1			3		5	1	2
Brown Creeper	2		1	3							1
<b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b>								1			2
Bullock's Oriole								2			
Bushtit								2			
Cassin's Finch	4	7	5	5	2	2	12		11		13
Cedar Waxwing											23
Chipping Sparrow	5	1	12	2	1	6	5	8	4		14
Clark's Nutcracker				1			2				5
Common Raven	1		1	3		1	3		1		1
Cooper's Hawk								1			1
Dark-eyed Junco	4		1	1			3				9
Downy Woodpecker											1
<b>Dusky Flycatcher</b>				3			1		11		2
Empidonax sp.			1								
<b>Evening Grosbeak</b>					2						1
Golden Eagle	1					2					
<b>Golden-crowned Kinglet</b>			2	1							2
<b>Green-tailed Towhee</b>		3				2	2		5		2
Hairy Woodpecker	1					1			1		
Hawk sp.		1									
Hermit Thrush	4	1	1	1		1			3		2

House Wren	5	4	1	2			11		5	1	5
Hummingbird sp.							1				
Lesser Goldfinch						4					1
MacGillivray's Warbler		1		2							2
Mallard								2			
Mountain Bluebird	2		2			3		3			
Mountain Chickadee	13	10	9	20		2	20	1	10		19
<b>Mourning Dove</b>								2			
Northern Flicker	5	1	4	1		1	2		1		6
Northern Goshawk	1										
Orange-crowned Warbler									1		
Pine Siskin	9	2	5	10		4	15		7		7
Pinyon Jay								1			
Pygmy Nuthatch	1						2				
<b>Red-breasted Nuthatch</b>	4	5	4	7			2		2		6
Red-naped Sapsucker			3	1					2	2	3
Red-tailed Hawk		1	1						1		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	12	6	8	12			2		8		8
Spotted Sandpiper								3			
<b>Spotted Towhee</b>		1		1			1	1	5		3
Steller's Jay	1		3				1		2		
Townsend's Solitaire											
Turkey Vulture								1			1
Unk. Sapsucker	1										
Unk. Thrush	1										
Virginia's Warbler											1
Parulidae sp.			1								
Warbling Vireo	5	5	3	1					15		4
Western Scrub-jay				1		1		3			2
Western Tanager			1				2				1
White-breasted Nuthatch	1			2							
Wild Turkey		4	10				7		4		1
Yellow Warbler											1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	8	5	2	6		2	1	2	6		11
Total	98	61	91	92	5	44	101	44	118	4	186

Table 4. All species recorded on tours 5/22/16

Species	Baker Creek to Grey Cliffs	Can Young Canyon	Lower Lehman	Picnic area/ Cave Springs	Sewer pond/ Rowland Springs	Snake Creek	Timber Creek
American Kestrel		1					
American Robin	6		12	2	4	11	3
American Three-toed Woodpecker							1
Barn Swallow					2		
Black-chinned Hummingbird	2						
Black-headed Grosbeak	1	4		1	1		
Black-throated Gray Warbler		3		1	4	1	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				6	1		
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	2	4	2	2	1	5	
Brown Creeper							2
Brown-headed Cowbird					10		
Bullock's Oriole				1	1		
Bushtit			3				
Cassin's Finch		5	7	2	4	5	5
Cedar Waxwing			8	9			
Chipping Sparrow	5	1		4	3	2	1
Clark's Nutcracker	35	53		20			
Common Raven	1	2		2	1		1
Cooper's Hawk		1					
dabbling duck sp.					2		
Dark-eyed Junco		1	1				10
Downy Woodpecker	2					1	
Dusky Flycatcher	1	7				10	
Dusky Grouse						1	
Empidonax sp.		1					
Eurasian Collared-Dove					2		
Evening Grosbeak		6					
Golden Eagle		1					
Gray Flycatcher	1						
Gray Vireo				3			
Green-tailed Towhee	2					5	2
Hairy Woodpecker		1				1	
Hermit Thrush						4	
House Wren	1	5	3			11	1

Juniper Titmouse				1			
Lesser Goldfinch				4			
MacGillivray's Warbler	2	3			1	5	1
Mallard					2		
Mountain Bluebird			1	2	1	3	
Mountain Chickadee	10	5	4	2		14	10
Mourning Dove					1		
Northern Flicker	5	4				3	3
Northern Goshawk						1	
Orange-crowned Warbler						1	
passerine sp.					2		
Pine Siskin	10	16	20	3	3	7	5
Pinyon Jay					9		
Plumbeous Vireo				1		1	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	4	3				4
Red-naped Sapsucker	2					1	1
Red-tailed Hawk	2					1	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5	2		1		6	8
Sharp-shinned Hawk						1	
Spotted Towhee	3	8	5	2	3	4	
Steller's Jay	2						
Townsend's Solitaire			1				
Violet-green Swallow					4		
Virginia's Warbler			1			1	
Warbling Vireo	1	4		1		16	
Western Scrub-jay		2		5	1		
Western Tanager					1	3	
White-breasted Nuthatch						2	
Wild Turkey	4	5				1	4
Yellow Warbler			1				
Yellow-breasted Chat					1		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	4	2	10		7	7	2
Total Observed	110	151	82	75	72	135	65